



State of California  
The Resources Agency  
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Pellows Road Fuelbreak		
PROJECT LOCATION	Pellows Road, west of the community of Paskenta, CA (see supporting documentation) Red Bluff, CA 96080	COUNTY	Tehama
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Adam Wyman, Forester II	PHONE	(530) 528-5106
ADDRESS	604 Antelope Blvd Red Bluff, CA 96080		

### Project Description

Create and maintain a fuelbreak by utilizing a Cal Fire road grader and operator to perform annual maintenance of Pellows Road, an existing gravel, dirt road in western Tehama County west of the community of Paskenta. The project extends for approximately 13 miles along Pellows Road. The topography is foothill, low elevation oak woodland consisting of blue oaks, Manzanita with some grey pine and chaparral brush species. There is also a significant component of rolling grassland that is open with little to no trees or brush.

The act of grading the road affords good access for fire crews and equipment. The act of grading the road also results in scalping the cured annual grasses off of the existing road surface prior to fire season. This road provides a linear feature and a good line of defense for access and a place to anchor a fire and provide a place to initial attack a wildfire. All project activities will be confined to the existing road running surface, no soil disturbance will occur except on the current road prism. No soil will be sidecast or displaced that will be deposited into any watercourse or lake.

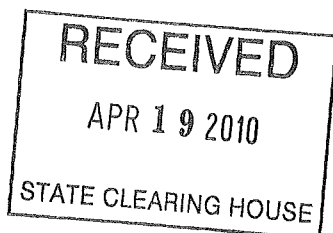
### EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (e) Minor Alterations to Land
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- ☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits within the Class 4 Categorical Exemption described in state law (14 CCR Section 15304) pertaining to minor alterations to land, will not have a significant effect on the environment, and is exempt from the provisions of CEQA. Prior to reaching this conclusion, however, the Department first conducted an environmental impact analysis to confirm that no **Exceptions** exist at the project site which would preclude the use of a Categorical Exemption. The possible exceptions that lead agencies must consider include (a) sensitive location, (b) cumulative impact, (c) significant impact due to unusual circumstances, (d) impacts to scenic highways, (e) activities within a hazardous waste site, and (f) significant adverse change to the significance of a historical resource (see CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2). This project involves grading a road surface and scraping cured annual grasses from an existing road surface that has been subject to annually road grading for maintenance for many years. This ongoing fire protection project will have no appreciable impact on the water or the land. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impacts would occur. Documentation on the environmental review completed by CAL FIRE is kept on file at CAL FIRE's Tehama-Glenn Unit Headquarters.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



*William E. Snyder* 4/15/10  
William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date